



Louisiana Board of Pharmacy
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Prescription Monitoring Program Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

July 1, 2020

Introduction

The Louisiana Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) is an electronic database used to collect and monitor prescription data for all Schedule II, III, IV, and V controlled substances, as well as certain drugs of concern, dispensed by a pharmacy in Louisiana or to a Louisiana resident from a pharmacy located in another state. The PMP also provides a venue for monitoring patient prescription history for practitioners.

Act 676 of the 2006 Louisiana Legislature authorized the development, implementation, operation, and evaluation of an electronic system for the monitoring of controlled substances and other drugs of concern that are dispensed within the state or to state residents by pharmacies located in other states. The goal of the program is to improve the state's ability to identify and inhibit the diversion of controlled substances and drugs of concern in an efficient and cost-effective manner and in a manner that shall not impede the appropriate utilization of these drugs for legitimate medical purposes.

The PMP was implemented in August 2008. Pharmacies and dispensing prescribers were instructed how and when to transmit their dispensing transactions to the program vendor for assimilation into the PMP database. Prescribers, dispensers, and other persons authorized to access PMP information were instructed how to secure their access privileges. The web portal to the PMP database was opened to queries on January 1, 2009, and the program remains fully operational.

Advisory Council

The enabling legislation created the PMP Advisory Council to assist the Board in the development and operation of the program. The council consists of the following members, each of whom may appoint a designee:

1. The president of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners;
2. The president of the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry;
3. The president of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing;
4. The president of the Louisiana State Board of Optometry Examiners;
5. The president of the Louisiana Academy of Physician Assistants;
6. The president of the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy;
7. The superintendent of the Louisiana State Police;
8. The administrator of the United States Drug Enforcement Administration;
9. The speaker of the Louisiana House of Representatives;
10. The president of the Louisiana Senate;
11. The chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare;
12. The chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare;
13. The secretary of the Department of Health;
14. The president of the Louisiana State Medical Society;
15. The president of the Louisiana Dental Association;
16. The president of the Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners;
17. The president of the Optometry Association of Louisiana;
18. The president of the Louisiana Pharmacists Association;
19. The president of the Louisiana Independent Pharmacies Association;
20. The president of the National Association of Chain Drug Stores;

21. The president of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association;
22. The president of the Louisiana District Attorneys Association;
23. The president of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America;
24. The president of the Louisiana Academy of Medical Psychologists.

During Fiscal Year 2019-2020, the council convened three of their four regularly-scheduled quarterly meetings; the April 2020 meeting was canceled due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.. Representatives from six of the 24 organizations attended 100% of the meetings; nine entities attended 66%; four attended 33%, and five entities had no representation at any of the meetings. During each of the meetings, program staff presented data concerning the number of prescription transactions reported to the program database as well as the number of queries to the database by prescribers, dispensers, law enforcement, and regulatory agencies. The staff also reported on the addition of new states available through the PMP InterConnect interstate network, as well as the increased utilization by the private sector of the PMP Gateway service, which integrates the PMP access portal into existing practice information systems in a variety of settings, including hospitals, clinics, practitioner offices, and pharmacies. The council reviewed new legislation adopted during the 2019 legislative session, and staff provided updates on the operational implementation of the legislative mandates.

Program Highlights

- *October 8, 2019* – the Board transitioned to an auto-registration process for immediate access to the state prescription monitoring program (PMP) for pharmacist and medical interns.
- *October 29, 2019* – Clinical Alerts enabled. Clinical Alerts provide automatic electronic patient alerts delivered directly to a prescriber user's dashboard and registered email to notify the prescriber that the patient has exceeded a set prescriber/dispenser threshold, exceeded a daily active MME threshold, or has been prescribed an opioid and benzodiazepine concurrently.
- *April 28, 2020* – through participation with the PMP InterConnect™ sponsored by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy, achieved connection with the United States Military Health System and 31 states/territory/district, including Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, D.C., Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.
- *May 21, 2020* – mandatory use monitoring reports relayed to the prescriber's licensing authority.

Louisiana PMP Statewide Integration Project

On January 1, 2019, the Board partnered with the Louisiana Dept. of Health's Office of Public Health, Bureau of Community Preparedness (LDH-OPH-BCP) and Appriss Health to provide a statewide PMP integration option to all healthcare providers in Louisiana utilizing a service called PMP Gateway®. Gateway offers healthcare

providers an option to integrate PMP data within the provider's electronic health record (EHR) or pharmacy information system to provide a streamlined clinical workflow for providers. The integration eliminates the need for providers to log in separately to the PMP web portal; instead, the EHR automatically initiates a patient query and returns the patient's PMP information directly within the provider's EHR or pharmacy information system.

Included as part of the integration, users now have access to an advanced analytics and patient support tool called NarxCare®. In addition to the existing Louisiana PMP functionality, NarxCare aggregates and analyzes prescription information from pharmacies and presents visual interactive information, as well as advanced analytic insights, machine learning risk scores and more to help prescribers and pharmacists provide better patient safety and outcomes for every patient. NarxCare also provides tools and resources that support patients' needs and assists a healthcare provider to connect their patient to treatment when appropriate. This statewide initiative is funded by a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) grant awarded to LDH-OPH-BCP and covers the costs of the licensing fees associated with the integration and NarxCare service.

As of June 30, 2020, the Louisiana PMP was interoperable with 176 licensees (EHRs and pharmacy management systems) across the state. The 176 licensees represent more than 1,600 facilities in Louisiana and were responsible for 1,810,207 PMP requests in the month of June 2020. There are an additional 174 licensee applicants pending.

Program Metrics

The data on the following pages provide summary data for the operational aspects of the program for Calendar Year 2019. The first graphic presents information about the use of the information by the authorized users as identified in the governing legislation. Data for the different categories of prescribers are presented, including the number of prescribers authorized to obtain PMP access privileges, the number with active access privileges and the number of queries to the PMP database by those prescribers. Other authorized users include law enforcement and regulatory agencies; information concerning the number of queries originating from those entities is also presented.

The second graphic presents information concerning the numbers of controlled substance prescriptions dispense in the state, including summary data for different types of drugs like opioids and benzodiazepines. Just over 10.8 million prescriptions were dispensed in the state during Calendar Year 2019, with an average of 2.326 prescriptions per Louisiana resident – a 4% reduction from the previous calendar year.

PMP Healthcare Provider Role	Number of Providers Eligible for PMP Access (as of 12/31/2019)	Number of Providers with PMP Access Privileges (as of 12/31/2019)	Number of PMP Requests by Providers through AWA RxE® During 2019	Number of PMP Requests by Providers through Gateway® During 2019
Physician (MD, DO)	13,140	8,760	1,610,093	8,316,025
Nurse Practitioner (APRN)	3,670	2,831	389,426	1,186,248
Dentist (DDS)	2,262	1,533	23,697	2,679
Physician Assistant (PA)	999	727	105,180	141,301
Optometrist (OD)	361	152	46	0
Podiatrist (DPM)	164	110	1,957	0
Medical Psychologist (MP)	91	80	21,654	0
Medical Intern/Resident	1,194	1,065	14,172	288
Prescriber's Delegate	NA	2,633	807,085	NA
Pharmacist (PST)	9,301	4,405	2,024,263	3,000,475
Pharmacist's Delegate	NA	1,021	177,687	NA
Totals	31,182	23,317	5,175,260	12,647,016

Law Enforcement, Prosecutorial Officials, & Specialty Courts	Regulatory Agencies	Other Roles
DEA (patient requests)	Board of Medical Examiners	Medical Examiner/Coroner
Specialty Courts	Board of Dentistry	Louisiana Medicaid
FBI	Board Nursing	Total
Homeland Security	Board of Pharmacy	716
Local Law Enforcement	DEA (licensee requests)	
HHS - OIG	Total	
State Attorney General	9,175	
State Police		
Total		

State Rx per Capita
2.326

Quick Slicers:

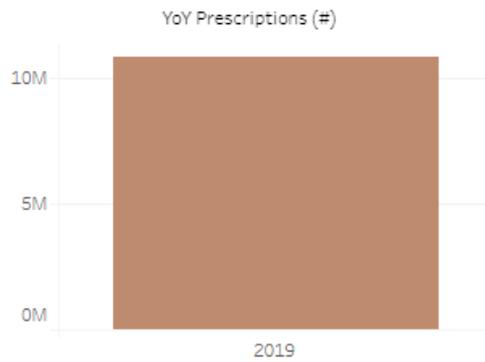


- 2012
- 2013
- 2014
- 2015
- 2016
- 2017
- 2018
- 2019
- 2020

Prescriptions
10,829,140

Quantity Dispensed	EACH (TABLETS, KITS, ETC..)	478,444K
	GRAMS (SOLIDS)	3,048K
	MILLILITERS (LIQUIDS)	71,666K
	UNSPECIFIED	1,010K

Days Supply
254,729,528



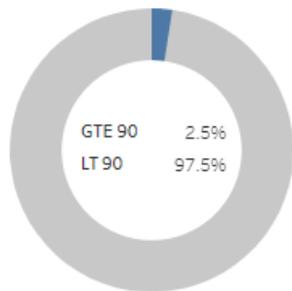
YoY Prescriptions (#) by Drug Schedule

Schedule 2	2019	4,916,105
Schedule 3	2019	740,493
Schedule 4	2019	4,337,886
Schedule 5	2019	503,530
Unscheduled	2019	319,628
Unspecified	2019	11,498

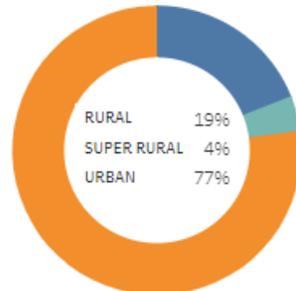
YoY Prescriptions (#) by Drug Classes

Opioid	2019	4,409,628
Benzo	2019	2,397,980
Anxiolytic, Hypnotics, Se..	2019	951,147
Other	2019	3,070,385

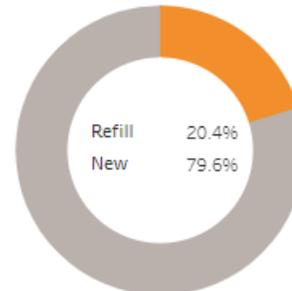
Prescriptions >= 90 MME vs. All



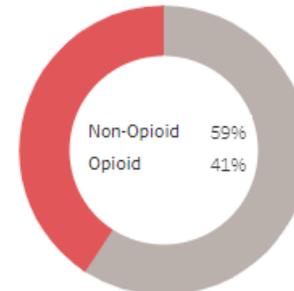
Rx by Patient Demographic Environment



New vs. Refill Prescriptions



Opioids vs. Non Opioids (%)



Conclusion

The program has completed 11 years of operation. Based on feedback from authorized users, it appears to represent an efficient and cost-effective use of resources. Data from the program suggests we have made some progress in the reduction of diversion of controlled substances. Our interstate collaborations have yielded high marks for our program design and operation. We look forward to fully developing the potential of our program to identify and inhibit the diversion of controlled substances in Louisiana.

We value and appreciate the contributions from and collaboration with our partners on the Prescription Monitoring Program Advisory Council. We also acknowledge the contributions from our administrative coordinators, Ms. Danielle Hartzog and Ms. Nerissa Montgomery, and the program manager, Mr. Joseph Fontenot, for their assistance with the development of this report and administrative oversight of the program.

Respectfully submitted,
Malcolm J Broussard
Executive Director